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SRI V. GURUNANDAN ROW :—" Has there not been any letter from any forest officer about the lending of tents to the Avadi Congress session? "

THE HON. SRI M. BHAKTAVATSALAM :—" Yes, Sir, there may have been communications. But the question was whether any tents belonging to the Forest department of the Government were supplied to the Avadi Congress and I have answered ' No '."

SRI V. GURUNANDAN ROW :—" Are the Government aware of any publication that the tents were supplied to the Avadi Congress session? "

THE HON. SRI M. BHAKTAVATSALAM :—" I do not know what is the publication referred to by the hon. Member. I know definitely that no tents (belonging to Government) were used in the Avadi Congress session."

SRI MOHAMED RAZA KHAN :—" While admitting that no tents were supplied by Government for the Avadi Congress session, may I know what ' other things ' were supplied by Government for the Avadi Congress session? "

THE HON. SRI M. BHAKTAVATSALAM :—" I want to know what the hon. Member means by saying ' other things '. I know that no delegate to the Avadi Congress used any tent belonging to the Forest Department."

Selection of candidates to the Senior Basic grade in the Basic Training School, Parivillicottai.

* 201 *Q.*—SRI G. KRISHNAMOORTHI : Will the Hon. the Minister for Finance and Education be pleased to state—

(*a*) the number of candidates interviewed for selection to the Senior Basic grade in the Basic Training School, Parivillicottai, Tirunelveli district, this school year;

(*b*) the number of candidates selected;

(*c*) the number of candidates admitted;

(*d*) the number of candidates sent out after admission; and

(*e*) the reasons for clause (*d*)?

THE HON. SRI C. SUBRAMANIAM :—" (*a*) 65.

" (*b*) 52.

" (*c*) 40.

" (*d*) 5.

" (*e*) They were not fully qualified as they had neither secured in S.S.L.C. Examination eligibility for admission into the University course of study nor the marks prescribed for eligibility to public service and they did not belong to backward classes so as to be considered for exemption from the above criteria."

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SRI G. KRISHNAMOORTHI :—" Is it not a fact Sir, that these five students were admitted by an order of the Basic Education Officer and after they had been in the class for about a week, the Headmaster had to send them out because of the order of the same Basic Education Officer? "

THE HON. SRI C. SUBRAMANIAM :—" The Selection Committee selected these candidates under the mistaken impression that they had obtained sufficient number of marks in the S.S.L.C. Examination. But after scrutiny it was found that there was a mistake and the mistake was found within the short time of one week and the mistake was rectified."

SRI G. KRISHNAMOORTHI :—" At least could they not have been admitted in the Junior basic class? "

THE HON. SRI C. SUBRAMANIAM :—" I do not think any such request was made. The question was whether they were fit for the senior basic course."

SRI G. KRISHNAMOORTHI :—" Will the Hon. the Minister see to it that such things do not recur in future as they cause annoyance to the parents? "

THE HON. SRI C. SUBRAMANIAM :—" Not only in this school but in some other schools such a mistake has arisen. I have issued strict instructions to all concerned that such things should not recur in future."

Grant of loan by the Union Government for Rural and Urban Electrification Schemes in this State.

* 202 Q.—SRI T. PURUSHOTHAM : Will the Hon. the Minister for Public Works be pleased to state—

(*a*) the amount of loan given by the Union Government for (1) rural and (2) urban electrification schemes in this State;

(*b*) the conditions governing the grant of the loan;

(*c*) the details of the electrification schemes sanctioned for execution out of the loan; and

(*d*) the programme of dates for the execution of those schemes?

THE HON. RAJA SRI SHANMUGA RAJESWARA SETHUPATHI :—" (*a*) *to* (*d*) Attention is invited to the paper [a] placed on the table of the House."

SRI T. PURUSHOTHAM :—" Sir, with reference to the last paragraph of the statement placed on the table of the House, may I presume that the Government will take all possible steps to push up the pending rural electrification schemes and see that the full amount allotted by the Central Government is utilized? "

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[a] Printed as Appendix II on pages 205–207 infra.